

SITUATION REPORT NO. 1
INCIDENT NO. 98-033
DATE: April 14, 1998 TIME: 4:30 p.m.

TO: Governor Edward T. Schafer
State Capitol
Bismarck, ND 58505

1. NATURE OF DISASTER: Water line break – city of Williston.
2. DEATHS AND INJURIES: None reported.
3. DAMAGES: On April 8, city of Williston Public Works employees discovered a major break in a 30-inch main line that connects the city with its water plant. The line was losing 500 gallons per minute (gpm). This break threatens to disrupt service to the local hospital and inhibit fire response efforts. A crossover has been made from the city system to the rural water system to help supply the city with water.
4. RESOURCES:

LOCAL: Local agencies responding to the water line break include Williston Public Works, local law enforcement, Williston City Commission and Mayor, and the Williston/Williams County Disaster Emergency Services.

STATE: The North Dakota National Guard and North Dakota Emergency Management are coordinating state resources.

FEDERAL: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has been providing technical assistance with line repair and water restoration efforts.

5. VOLUNTEER ACTION: None at this time.
6. MAJOR ACTIONS: The North Dakota National Guard dispatched on April 14 three trucks and six soldiers from the 136th Quartermaster Battalion at Camp Gilbert C. Grafton in Devils Lake. The crew will connect a six-inch pump and 10,000 feet of hose. Once the hookup has been completed and the water tested, water will be rerouted from the water plant, around the break site, to the transmission line. City crews on scene have installed a hydrant to allow for the bypass.

City workers on the scene are removing a concrete overlay on top of the water valve where the break occurred. Once bypass efforts have been completed and the concrete has been removed, crews will then be able to totally determine repair requirements. Repair efforts could take seven to 10 days.

Eight million gallons of water has been put in storage. Upon completion of bypass work, 850,000 gallons will be available per day.

Because the city averages water usage of 1.3 million gallons a day, the citizens of Williston have

been asked to conserve water. Additional restrictions may be enacted by local authorities.

Local responders have developed contingency plans to keep the local hospital and nursing homes supplied with water. The hospital uses approximately 34,000 gallons a day.

City officials issued an emergency declaration on April 13.

7. ASSISTANCE NEEDED: National Guard assistance has been requested and provided as stated.
8. OUTSIDE HELP ON SCENE: National Guard water distribution resources.
9. OTHER: No additional information at this time.

Douglas C. Friez, State Director